

- A²
36. The cassette of claim 31, and further comprising filter paper positioned within the cassette to retard egress of molten paraffin.
37. The cassette of claim 31, wherein the agarose has a melting point in the range of 55 to 65° C.
38. The cassette of claim 31, wherein the foam comprises a phenolic foam.--

REMARKS

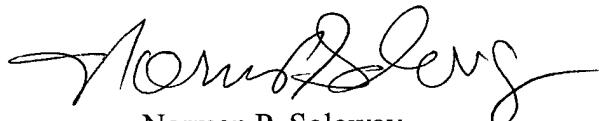
The claims have been amended to better define and scope the invention. No new matter has been entered. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121, a marked copy of amended claims 11-16 accompanies this amendment.

Examination of the application in its amended form is respectfully requested.

Form PTO-2038 authorizing a charge of \$144.00 to cover the cost of the added claims fee accompanies this amendment.

In the event that there are any fee deficiencies, or additional fees are payable, please charge (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on November 8, 2002, at Tucson, Arizona.



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MARKED CLAIMS

SERIAL NO.: 10/029,658

DOCKET: VMS 01.01



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NOV 19 2002

TC 1700

Serial No. 10/029,658
Docket No. VMS 01.01
Preliminary Amendment

MARKED CLAIMS SHOWING CHANGES MADE:

11. (Amended) A cassette having a hollow for receiving and retaining a tissue specimen for fluid treatment preparatory to histological examination, comprising a top portion and a bottom portion snap or friction mounted to the top portion, the bottom portion having a side wall removable along a tear line.

12. (Amended) The cassette of claim [10] 11, wherein said removable side wall bridges said top and bottom portions.

13. (Amended) The cassette of claim [10] 11, wherein said removable side wall includes a pair of tear lines.

14. (Amended) The cassette of claim [10] 11, wherein said removable wall includes a projecting tab to facilitate removal of said wall.

15. (Amended) The cassette of claim [10] 11, wherein said top and bottom portions are molded of a synthetic plastic material.

16. (Amended) The cassette of claim [10] 11, further comprising a pre-formed foam block in said hollow.